MINUTES
COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2015

The regular weekly meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia was called to order at 5:30 P.M., Tuesday, February 24, 2015, on the 2nd Floor of the Citizens Service Center, located at 3111 Citizens Way, Columbus, Georgia. Honorable Teresa Tomlinson, Mayor and Evelyn Turner Pugh, Mayor Pro Tem presiding.

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PRESENT: Present other than Mayor Teresa Tomlinson and Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh were Councilors R. Gary Allen, Mike Baker, Jerry Barnes, Tom B. Buck III, Glenn Davis, Berry H. Henderson, Bruce Huff, Judy W. Thomas and Evelyn Woodson. City Manager Isaiah Hugley, Assistant City Attorney Lucy Sheftall, Clerk of Council Tiny B. Washington and Deputy Clerk of Council Lindsey Glisson were also present. Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh took her seat at 5:45 p.m.

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ABSENT: City Attorney Clifton Fay was absent, but was represented by Assistant City Attorney Lucy Sheftall.

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INVOCATION: Offered by Reverend Walter Lundy of M.L. Harris United Methodist Church.

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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by the members of the Elizabeth Canty Community Study Hall and Warren Williams Community Study Hall.

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MAYOR'S AGENDA:

Minutes of the January 27, 2015 Council Meeting of the Council of the Consolidated Government of Columbus, Georgia was submitted and approved upon the adoption of a motion made by Councilor Barnes. Seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by those nine members of Council present for this meeting, with Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh being absent for this vote.

CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA

There was no business items listed on the City Attorney's agenda.

PUBLIC AGENDA

THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS APPEARED BEFORE THE COUNCIL ON THE PUBLIC AGENDA TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING SUBJECT MATTERS, AS LISTED BELOW:
MS. CHERYL L. BURSH, REPRESENTING NEIGHBORHOODS FOCUSED ON AFRICAN-AMERICAN YOUTH, INC., RE: NEIGHBORHOOD HOPE AWARD BEING AWARDED TO THE ELIZABETH E. CANTY RESIDENT COUNCIL & NEIGHBORHOOD AND THE WARREN WILLIAMS HOMES RESIDENT COUNCIL & NEIGHBORHOOD:

Ms. Cherly Bursh representing Neighborhoods Focused on African-American Youth came forward and said she would like to present to the Council some of the significant work that is going on in the Elizabeth Canty Homes neighborhood as well as Warren Williams Homes neighborhood. She said we are focused on improving the skills, abilities, health and overall character of children who live in economically challenged areas. She said we have an award called the Neighborhood Hope Award and this award is given to neighborhoods that have a demonstrated commitment to insuring that their children graduate from high school.

Ms. Burch then presented a Neighborhood Hope Award to Ms. Valerie Bledsoe, Coordinator of the Community Study Hall Program in Warren William Homes.

She also presented a Neighborhood Hope Award to Mr. James Walton, President of Elizabeth Canty Homes Resident Council and Ms. Brenda Brown, Coordinator of the Elizabeth Canty Homes Community Study Hall Program.

Ms. Burch then thanked the Mayor and Council, all businesses and the many volunteers for their continued support and contributions to the Study Hall Programs.

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MS. CARRIE BOGGS, REPRESENTING MEDIACOM, RE: C-SPAN CABLE TV PROGRAMMING

Ms. Carrie Boggs, Government Relations Manager for Mediacom came forward and provided the Mayor and Council with information regarding C-Span Cable TV Programming. She advised that Mediacom has been serving the City of Columbus for about 15 years. She said Mediacom is partnering with C-Span and highlighting the City of Columbus as part of a series that they are doing. She said C-Span is founded and supported by the cable industry, and they have chosen Columbus, as one of six cities, to be featured in a Spring Tour Series that will air between February and April of this year. She said they will be arriving this Thursday and will be here from Thursday through Tuesday traveling around the City in special equipped vehicles in efforts to capture stories about the history and literary life specific to Columbus.

She extended an invitation to the Mayor and Council to attend a luncheon welcoming C-Span and the City of Columbus, to be held at the Columbus Museum on Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 12:00 p.m.
Phyllis, the Public Relations Director, who was also present with Ms. Boggs came forward to provide additional information in regards to the luncheon and the Spring Tour Series. She advised that the programs would be televised on C-Span 2 and C-Span 3 on March 20-21, 2015. She provided Council with a summary regarding the C-Span city tour. *(A copy of the summary was filed in the Clerk of Council’s Office)*

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**CITY MANAGER’S AGENDA:**

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS SUBMITTED AND EXPLAINED BY CITY MANAGER HUGLEY AND WAS DEFEATED BY THE COUNCIL:**

A Resolution – Authorizing the striping of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard to a three lane roadway from Buena Vista Road to 10th Avenue.

City Manager Hugley said we have been discussing Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard since the year of 2012. He said we have $800,000 to resurface Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard from Buena Vista Road to 10th Avenue. He said we have been trying to come to an agreement on whether we should re-stripe with three lanes (a travel lane in both directions with a center turning lane and two bicycle lanes in both directions) or if we would go back and re-stripe Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard as it exists today. He indicated from Brown Avenue traveling east to Buena Vista Road is currently five lanes and Brown Avenue traveling west to 10th Avenue is currently four lanes. He advised that staff believes that three lanes would be best practices, but if the Council does not vote in favor of the three lanes Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard would be re-striped as it exists today. He said we had proposed that after one year we would report back to the Mayor and Council on the overall affect of going to three lanes. He further explained that the Spider web project going underneath the railroad tracks would not take place for another four or five years, which would ensure that there is enough time to monitor the three lane road and report back to Council and determine if there is an adverse affect to going to three lanes versus what we have today.

Councilor Huff said the best practices works in most situations but the character of this road is different. He said with the commercial industry, there is an industrial piece to this particular street. He said he is asking that the Council would support him in asking that this matter be delayed. He went on to explain that the Brown Avenue Bridge will reopen and there may be at least 1,000 more cars to travel on Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. He said if we proceed with the plan to go to three lanes and find out that we are incorrect, there is no turning back to take care of the traffic that needs to flow down that road. He then said he is opposed to the 3-lane striping but he is for the 4-lane striping.

Councilor Huff made a motion to deny the resolution. Seconded by Councilor Thomas.

Councilor Thomas said if this passes and it doesn’t work, how much would it cost to re-stripe the street?
City Manager Hugley advised that staff is projecting that the cost to re-stripe the street would be $75,000.

Councilor Woodson asked how would the re-stripping of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, whether it is three lanes or four lanes, affect the beautification plan that we have anticipated for this area.

City Manager Hugley reiterated that there is $800,000 available for the resurfacing of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and although the Outdoor Learning Center component is within the vision for Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, we do not have funding for that component at this time. He said if we receive approval for the three lanes, we would know what right-of-way we would have to work with. He said we would then begin to work towards the streetscapes beautification component and the Outdoor Learning Center Component. He pointed out that there would be a much better opportunity to attract grants and other support for the funding Outdoor Learning Center if there were three lanes opposed to four or five lanes. He said this would show that we are implementing and recognizing best practices in Columbus, Georgia as many communities across the United States have done.

After much discussion on this subject, Mayor Tomlinson then called the question on the motion made by Councilor Huff to deny the resolution, which was seconded by Councilor Thomas and defeated by the Council, by a vote of nine to one with Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh and Councilors Allen, Baker, Buck, Davis, Henderson, Huff, Thomas and Woodson voting yes; Councilor Barnes voting no.

Mayor Tomlinson pointed out that there are privately funded experts expected to be in the area in the near future, and suggested that these experts come before Council to give information regarding some of the things that are going on with best practices around the State.

Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh requested that visual aids be provided to the Council the next time there is a discussion concerning changing the number of lanes to a road.

There was additional discussion regarding this matter with the Mayor and various Council Members expressing their views and concerns; after which the matter was concluded.

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THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS SUBMITTED AND EXPLAINED BY CITY MANAGER HUGLEY AND WAS ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL:

A Resolution (48-15) - Authorizing approval to accept $145,000 and any additional funding awarded in fiscal years 2015 and 2016 from the United States Army CYC strong (ASPYN) program and amend the multi-governmental fund by the award of the grant; in the amount of new spaces $1,000 per child care space and $1,000 for sustained child care spaces at a maximum total of 145 child care spaces. This grant will allow Columbus parks and recreation community schools division to purchase equipment,
training, administrative expenses and direct program staff for before and after school programs at the accredited sites and those sites with military children enrolled.

Councilor Davis moved the adoption of the resolution. Seconded by Councilor Allen and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present for this meeting.

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THE FOLLOWING FIVE PURCHASING RESOLUTIONS WERE SUBMITTED AND EXPLAINED BY CITY MANAGER HUGLEY AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL:

A Resolution (49-15) – Authorizing the execution of a lease agreement with Friends of Historic Claflin, Inc. (Columbus, GA) for the redevelopment of the Claflin School.

Councilor Davis asked if there would be any cost to the city in this redevelopment process and he also asked if there were any benchmarks set to insure that progress is being made.

City Manager Hugley advised that there would be no cost to the city. He also pointed out that there is an initial term of 18 months and during that initial period phase one was going through the process of getting to where we are today. He said in phase two they would identify and apply for restoration funds and conduct fund raising events; phase three would require that they stabilize and/or demo and continue their fund raising if demolition would be required. He said if they are successful in phases two and three over the 18 month period, we would extend the agreement for another three and a half years to allow them to accomplish three more phases. He said in phase four they would be required to restore the facility, in phase five they would prepare the facility for tenant and occupants and phase six would come in September of 2018, in which we would be expecting them to have a grand opening.

Councilor Davis said we have talked about issues concerning public safety as well as health matters. He then asked if periodic inspections are being conducted to insure safety.

City Manager Hugley said they would have to obtain permits, which would call for inspections. He said because we are leasing to them and authorizing them to do work on a building that is in our possession, we will be doing on-going monitoring. He said they’ve got to have insurance and also add us as an additional insured.

Councilor Thomas asked City Manager Hugley if there would be any benefits in making special note of a liaison with Deputy City Manager Arrington and the Inspections and Codes Department.

City Manager Hugley said this is normal business practice and he does not recommend identifying a liaison.
Councilor Woodson moved the adoption of the resolution. Seconded by Councilor Barnes and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present for this meeting.

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A Resolution (50-15) – Authorizing the purchase of one (1) Chipper Truck [2015 Ford F750 Extended Cab Air Auto] from Altec Industries, Inc., (Birmingham, AL) in the amount of $82,920.00, by cooperative purchase via National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) Contract #031014-ALT.

Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh moved the adoption of the resolution. Seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present for this meeting.

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A Resolution (51-15) – Authorizing payment to Mainline Information Systems, Inc. (Tallahassee, FL), in the amount of $48,491.76, for the 2015 IBM Passport Advantage/Lotus Notes annual license renewal.

Councilor Woodson moved the adoption of the resolution. Seconded by Councilor Allen and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present for this meeting.

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A Resolution (52-15) – Authorizing the payment to Tyler Technologies, Inc., Appraisal and Tax Division (Dallas, TX), in the amount of $98,795.00, for the annual renewal fee for OASIS Maintenance Support, covering the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. Payment will be made in two installments in the amount of $49,397.50; the first payment upon approval of this resolution, and the second payment after July 1st.

Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh moved the adoption of the resolution. Seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present for this meeting.

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A Resolution (53-15) – Authorizing the agreement from QPublic, LLC to upgrade the web hosting services, they are currently providing to the Board of Tax Assessors, to include GIS information. The cost of the upgrade is as follows: Fixed Fee Development and Deployment Services - $2,000 (one-time fee), Year 1 (2/1/2015 – 6/30/2015) - $6,895.83, Year 2 (7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016) - $11,750, Year 3 (7/1/2016 – 6/30/2017) - $11,750 and Year 4 (7/1/2017-6/30/2018) - $11,750; with a 30-day cancellation anytime after June 30, 2016.

Councilor Woodson moved the adoption of the resolution. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present for this meeting.
THE FOLLOWING PURCHASING RESOLUTION WAS SUBMITTED BY CITY MANAGER HUGLEY AND DELAYED BY THE COUNCIL AFTER SOME DISCUSSION:

A Resolution – Authorizing the execution of a construction contract with Earth-Scapes, Inc. (Phenix City, AL), in the amount of $1,024,202.65, for the Riverwalk Plaza located on 14th Street between Broadway and the 14th Street Bridge.

Planning Director Rick Jones came forward and said the first part of this project dealt with the actual bridge itself being constructed. He said when we spoke with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) we spoke about the actual bridge; we also discussed the approach area, which goes over the Riverwalk and reconstruction of the plaza area to make it into a pedestrian venue. He said there has been some conversation on the minor side in terms of extending and opening up Front Avenue. He advised that the money has been set aside for this whole project. He said our objective is to go ahead and move forward with the construction and getting the contract set. He said our hope is to enhance the area in efforts to see more development opportunities. He also assured that this project would not impede those individuals who use the Total Systems garage.

Councilor Thomas asked Director Jones what we would be receiving for a million dollars.

Director Jones said other than streetscape we would be beautifying this area and providing more aesthetics quality. He also went on to say that there would be a four lane roadway through with sidewalks and a little bit of grass along with other things such as: benches, trash receptacles and signage. He said there will also be a roundabout turnaround.

Councilor Thomas asked Director Jones if the city owns the property between the old Front Street and Country’s Barbeque.

Director Jones said from his understanding that street would have to be dedicated back to the city. He indicated that the city owns the other side of 14th Street.

There were questions raised by Councilor Thomas and Councilor Davis in regards to the construction of the restrooms on the Riverwalk and at this time City Manager Hugley requested that staff provide the Council with an update on the construction of the restrooms at the next Council Meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh then moved the adoption of the resolution. Seconded by Councilor Woodson.

Councilors Henderson and Davis requested that the Strategic plan as well as more specific information on the project to be brought back before the Council at the next meeting.

Councilor Henderson then made a motion to delay the resolution. Seconded by Councilor Davis and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present for this meeting.
THE FOLLOWING PURCHASING RESOLUTION WAS ALSO SUBMITTED BY CITY MANAGER HUGLEY AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL:

A Resolution (54-15) – Authorizing the execution of a construction contract with C. W. Matthews Contracting Company, Inc., in the amount of $2,296,398.81 for intersection improvements at Veterans Parkway and Double Churches Road.

Councilor Thomas asked for an explanation of why construction is needed in this area. She said there have been many concerns in regards to this issue.

Ms. Donna Newman, Director of Engineering then came forward and said this project is to address congestion at that intersection and there are inadequate left turning lanes that need expansion. She said this would also carry us through the intersection with the business park that has been developed in recent years. She said we will also add an additional lane coming eastbound for those who are making a right turn and this will require us to widen the railroad crossing. She said there will be some improvements at Northlake as well.

Councilor Woodson moved the adoption of the resolution. Seconded by Councilor Davis and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present for this meeting.

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FINANCE MONTHLY REPORT:

Finance Director Pam Hodge then came forward and gave the monthly finance update for January 2015.

Operating Fund Summary -- general fund is up 1.06% over the same period of time last year.

Local Option Sales Tax we are seeing a 3.62% increase and an increase in the property taxes by 1.83%.

Other Local Option Sales Tax – increase of 4.15%
Storm water Fund- up 3.27
Paving Fund – up 3.28%
Medical Center Fund – up 4.79%
Integrated Waste – up 9.33%, there was an increase in the integrated waste fund from $14 to $15 per month.

E911 – down .48%, we are still seeing a decline on the landline side; we did see an increase for the wireless phones.

Economic Development – up 29%; this was due to the mileage rate increase from .41 mills to .50 mills.
Debt Service Fund – down 3.28%.
Transportation Fund – up 1.17%
Parking Management – up 10.38%

Trade Center Fund – down 23%; Director Hodge explained that they are just under $200,000 revenue as opposed to expenditures. She said they have a fund balance in the Trade Center fund managed by an authority, so they are not relying on the General Fund. She said last year does include the online travel company distribution of the hotel/motel tax, which was about $100,000.

Bull Creek – down 11/2%

Oxbow Creek Golf Course – up almost 8% compared to last year

Civic Center Fund – down 18%, Revenues and expenditures are about $300,000 behind.

Health Insurance Fund- down about 2.61% from $12.5 million to $12.2 million; she said starting in January we had a lower number of people on our plan with the spousal change that we made. She said we are expecting to see some decline because of that. She said we are still about $4 million dollars difference between revenues and expenditures, but the new plan just took effect on January 1, 2015, so we will be watching really closely to see the impact it will have with the changes that were made on January 1st.

TSPOLST- Ms. Hodge said the report indicates that we have 106 Police Officers of the 110 that are filled at the end of January and most of the other departments have filled the positions that were allocated in the OLOST revenue. OLOST year to date – up 3.79%; month to date – 2.5%

Director Hodge said she has also included a report on the OLOST Infrastructure projects that are in the works or have already been completed since the inception of the OLOST.

Director Hodge then went back to the General Fund Departmental Expenditures that were included in the report. She indicated the report shows where each department is tracking as of the end of January. She said there are several departments on the watch list but most of them are within a half percent of being 41% balance remaining, so they are very close to maintaining and staying within budget. She said some of the departments have items that are paid the first half of the year that won’t be paid the second half of the year. She said in total there is 43.52% remaining in the General Fund.

Director Hodge pointed out on the TSLOST for 2013, collections were $2.4 million dollars and for 2014 for calendar year collections were $2,479,000.00. She advised that there was a slight increase in the TSLOST collections between 2013 and 2014. She said there are two projects that have been approved by Council for discretionary funding and that’s the Boxwood Boulevard Bridge replacement and the Victory Drive improvements.
PRESENTATIONS:

Deputy City Manager David Arrington gave a presentation detailing the upgrade for the 800 MHz System as follows:

**Background**

- 1992 – Analog 800 MHz radio system purchased for all City communication needs
- 2002 – Phase I of analog/digital conversion implemented
- 2009 – Phase II of analog/digital conversion Added McKee Road tower
- 2010 – MDT High Performance Upgrade
- 2014 – Upgrade E911 consoles to new technology
- 2015 – Critical components of existing radio infrastructure reach end of life and serviceability. (Master Site Controller). Failure of the system these conditions would be catastrophic.

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**Migration Assurance Program (MAP)**

- Lease/Purchase Program through Motorola to immediately upgrade all infrastructures (site controllers, transmitters, radios, etc.). Equipment will be installed prior to end of serviceable life of equipment.
- Program includes all maintenance for equipment during the lease period of 10 years. Locks in maintenance costs at fixed rate in lieu of current 3% annual increase.
- Provides replacement of Outdoor Emergency Warning system (radio component only, not speakers).
- Upgrade all E911 CAD system and all associated maintenance costs over 10 year periods.
- Insures compliance with APCO P25 Standard – Year 6 or 7 of contract may require additional portable radio replacement.
- Fixed payment over 10 yr period. Funding to be prorated between Public Safety, E911, and General Government based on percentage of equipment.
  - Public Safety $842,490
  - General Govt. $260,480
  - E911 $932,032
  Total $2,035,000

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**Recommended Actions**

- Submit Resolution to Council on March 10, 2015 requesting approval to enter into a Lease/Purchase Agreement with Motorola for the Migration Assurance Plan.
Deputy City Manager Arrington further explained that the APCO P25 is the standard for interoperability. He said we have agreements in place with LaGrange and Troup County. He said we did have an agreement with Harris County but they elected to go in a different direction because they were not satisfied with the service they were getting. He said we have a number of local agencies that are operating on our system and it is the responsibility of each of those agencies to ensure that their equipment is upgraded when needed.

Councilor Davis expressed that some of the citizens in District 2 are being patched into Russell County when trying to notify 911. He then asked if the upgrade would help in any way with this issue.

Major Stan Swiney approached the podium and said this issue has existed since cellular service has been available. He explained that because we are neighbors with Phenix City, when using cell phones citizens often hit the Phenix City cell towers depending on their location. He said cell phones communicate with the tower that gives the best signal. He said until improvements and changes are made in the technology of the cell phone provider, our best recovery is to have rapid transfers between all of the neighboring 911 centers.

Councilor Baker said on the back page it is indicated that the total 10-year cost of this project would be $20 million dollars. He then asked what kind of licenses, upgrades and additional hardware/software would be involved in this project.

Major Swiney said right now we are currently in a 60 month contract with Motorola to supply new hardware into the 911 Center, which is an ongoing project. He said this amount covers the RF portions and the continuing maintenance on any system that Motorola supports.

Councilor Baker then asked Deputy City Manager Arrington what would be the funding source for this project.

Deputy City Manager Arrington said in the back of the handout there is a distribution cost among funds.

City Manager Hugley advised that this item would be listed on the City Manager’s purchasing agenda at the next Council Meeting.

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RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM:

At the request of Council, Major Swiney came forward to provide a brief update of the records management system. He said we are in the last stages of development, and we are now setting training for the months of late May, June and July. He said we have a tentative go live date of August 1, 2015, at which point we will probably spend another two or three weeks fixing all of the bugs that are found before we go to a full cut in September or October. He said he anticipates that the system will be accepted before the end of the year.
UPCOMING DID-PARKING FEE COLLECTION SERVICES:

After the City Manager’s Agenda was concluded, Councilor Thomas requested that the City Manager look into what it would take for the citizens to have the convenience of utilizing their debit or credit cards when paying parking fees for the parking garages owned by CCG.

City Manager Hugley said we will consider this going forward.

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CLERK OF COUNCIL’S AGENDA:

1. Memo from Clerk of Council Washington, Re: C.I.R.C.L.E.

2. Memo from Clerk of Council Washington, Re: Civic Center Advisory Board.

3. Biographical sketch of Ms. Rebecca Antrobius, who is interested in serving as a Historic District Resident Representative for the Historic and Architectural Review Board.


5. Application of Naddious Early to temporarily close 1110 Knight Drive to Stratford Drive, on Sunday, March 1, 2015, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., in connection with a Birthday Party for the use of a train.

6. Application of Lakevia Hill to temporarily close E. Lindsay Drive, from the south driveway of 1066 to the south driveway of 1060, on Saturday, March 7, 2015, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., in connection with a Birthday Party.

7. Application of Elizabeth Hurst to temporarily close the 1000 block of Broadway, on Saturday, March 7, 2015, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., in connection with the “Uptown Time Change Party”.

8. Application of Elizabeth Hurst to temporarily close 11th Street, from 1st Avenue to Front Avenue, on Saturday, March 14, 2015, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., in connection with the “St. Patty’s Day 5K” finish line.

9. Application of Elizabeth Hurst to temporarily close the 1100 block of Broadway, on Saturday, March 14, 2015, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., in connection with the “Uptown Drum Circle”.

10. Application of Elizabeth Hurst to temporarily close 17th Street, from below Wildwood Avenue to 18th Avenue and Cherokee Avenue, from Columbus High Parking Lot to Flournoy Drive, on Saturday, March 16, 2015, from 4:00 a.m. to midnight, in connection with the “Uptown & Midtown Slide the City”.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS SUBMITTED AND EXPLAINED BY CLERK OF COUNCIL WASHINGTON AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL:


Councilor Allen moved the adoption of the resolution. Seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present for this meeting.

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THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS SUBMITTED AND EXPLAINED BY CLERK OF COUNCIL WASHINGTON:

Email correspondence from Mr. Michael V. Williams, Sr., Council Chair of the Columbus Chapter Rainbow Push Coalition, requesting the Brown Avenue Bridge be named in honor of Reverend Dr. William B. Howell.

Councilor Allen made a motion that this request be received. Seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present for this meeting.

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MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING BOARDS WERE SUBMITTED BY CLERK OF COUNCIL WASHINGTON AND OFFICIALLY RECEIVED BY THE COUNCIL:

Board of Elections & Registration, January 22, 2015.
Board of Honor, December 17, 2014.
Board of Tax Assessors, 03-15 & 04-15.
Cooperative Extension, February 5, 2015.
Keep Columbus Beautiful, February 4 & 10, 2015.
Planning Advisory Commission, August 6 & 20, September 3 & 17, and October 15, 2014.

Councilor Allen made a motion that these minutes be received. Seconded by Councilor Henderson and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present for this meeting.

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NOMINATIONS AND/OR CONFIRMATION OF BOARD MEMBERS WERE MADE TO THE FOLLOWING BOARDS BY THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA:

BOARD APPOINTMENTS:
AIRPORT COMMISSION:

Clerk of Council Washington pointed out that we have received the three nominees from the Airport Commission, from which the Council may select someone to succeed Mr. Don Cook, who has resigned from the board. She said the three nominees are Mr. Chris I. Badcock, Ms. Tana McHale and Mr. William Carter Woolfolk.

Voting for Mr. Chris I. Badcock was Councilor Henderson. Voting for Ms. Tana McHale was Mayor Pro Tem Turner Pugh and Councilors Allen, Baker, Barnes, Buck, Huff and Woodson. Voting for Mr. William Carter Woolfolk was Councilors Davis and Thomas.

Councilor Allen moved confirmation of Ms. Tana McHale. Seconded by Councilor Woodson and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Clerk of Council Washington pointed out that the term of office of Mr. Chuck H. McDaniel, III on the Community Development Advisory Council has expired and that he is not eligible to succeed himself for another term of office. She further pointed out that Councilor Baker is working on a replacement for this seat.

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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION ADVISORY BOARD:

Clerk of Council Washington pointed out that on last week Mr. Xavier McCaskey and Mr. Rafael Rose’s seat were declared vacant and that Council must now nominate someone to fill these two positions.

Councilor Huff then nominated Ms. Brenda Forman and Ms. Melonese Close to fill those two vacant positions.

Clerk of Council Washington pointed out that Ms. Melonese Close does not live in Muscogee County.

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HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD:

Clerk of Council Washington pointed out Mr. Matt McDaniel, who serves as the Historic District Resident member on the Historic & Architectural Review Board has resigned his seat, due to him no longer living in the district. She pointed out that Ms. Rebecca Antrobus is interested in serving on the Board.
Clerk of Council Washington advised that Mr. John Sheftall, who serves as a Historic District Resident member on the Historic & Architectural Review Board is not eligible to succeed himself. She advised that we have spoken with the Liberty Cultural Center and they are recommending Ms. Judith Nail for a second term of office and she may now be confirmed.

Councilor Henderson moved confirmation. Seconded by Councilor Allen and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present.

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HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF COLUMBUS:

Clerk of Council Washington pointed out that the terms of office of Mr. James Webster, Ms. Sarah Banks-Lang and Mr. Jim Laycock expired in November. She further pointed out that Mr. Webster and Ms. Banks-Lang have both been nominated to succeed themselves for another term of office, and that we still need one additional nominee from which the authority will select someone to replace the incumbents.

Clerk of Council Washington also pointed out that she has spoken with Muscogee Manor about some recommendations and we are waiting to hear back from them.

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PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Clerk of Council Washington advised that Ms. Geraldine P. Buckner has been nominated to replace Ms. Valerie A. Thompson on the Public Safety Advisory Board and she may now be confirmed.

Councilor Henderson moved confirmation. Seconded by Councilor Allen and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present.

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RECORDER'S COURT JUDGES:

Clerk of Council Washington informed the Mayor and Council that all four of the incumbents, Mary Buckner, Mike Cielinski, Julius Hunter and Michael Joyner have been re-nominated for another four-year term of office.

Councilor Woodson made a motion to approve all four incumbents. Seconded by Councilor Barnes and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present.

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VALLEY PARTNERSHIP JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

Clerk of Council Washington pointed out that Ms. Jacki Lowe has resigned from her seat on the Valley Partnership Joint Development Authority due to her being appointed to serve on the Development Authority. She pointed out that Council will need to nominate someone else to fill this position.

Mayor Tomlinson requested that Clerk of Council Washington check with either the Chamber of Commerce or the Valley Partnership Authority on a suggestion for the vacant seat of Ms. Jackie Lowe.

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CITIZEN SERVICE CENTER SIGN:

Councilor Huff advised that he received a text inquiring about the sign for the Citizens Service Center Building. He asked will there be an upgrade to the sign in the near future.

City Manager Hugley said we certainly will have an upgrade. He said the sign that is in the front of the building is not the permanent sign. He said we are now working on funding to construct a new sign.

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VALLEY PARTNERSHIP JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

Councilor Davis requested that Jimbo Martin be considered as a nominee to fill the seat of Ms. Jackie Lowe on the Valley Partnership Joint Development Authority.

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With there being no other business to come before the Council, Councilor Woodson made a motion for adjournment. Seconded by Councilor Allen and carried unanimously by those ten members of Council present for this meeting, with the time being 7:50 p.m.

(Tiny B. Washington, MMC
Clerk of Council
The Council of Columbus, Georgia